

**To my son's T&C Basketball coaches:**

I felt compelled to share the attached story with you that you contributed to.

From the 2nd grade when my son asked for his first basketball hoop, he has loved to play basketball.

My son started his organized basketball career in 5th grade when he first joined the Town & Country basketball league. He had the privilege to have the same coaches in both 5th and 6th grade. Under your direction he developed solid basic skills. He was only medium height and was not the fastest kid on the court. But he could shoot well, played solid defense, rebounded well, and had a good nose for the game.

In 7th grade he joined middle school athletics and confidently entered the basketball try-outs in which 100 kids would try-out and only 24 would be selected to play on the team. He made it to the final round – but was not selected in the final cut. He was devastated and basketball career was over.....for a day.

Then he remembered that Middle school coaches were more known for their football coaching ability, and not so much for their basketball coaching ability. So he snapped out of it and requested that he play on the Town & Country 7th/8th grade league and even talked his 8th grade brother who had never played organized ball to join him. They had a good time, both improved their game, and their team came in 2nd place for the season and the playoffs. In 8th grade he skipped school athletics altogether and again played on the Town & Country basketball league. With your good coaching he continued to improve and his team once again placed 2nd for the year.

By coincidence about that time we decided to move out of Austin into a more rural setting. That placed us just inside the boundary of a much smaller high school. So in his freshmen year my son again joined athletics. He had two successful years playing JV in both football and basketball. He was the leading scorer in basketball his sophomore year.

This year he is a junior and is on the varsity basketball team. He is still not tall, only 5'9", and is still not the fastest, but he still can shoot (most of his points come from 3-point range), still plays solid defense, rebounds well, and has a good nose for the game – and still loves every minute he spends on the court. He is not a starter but is the highest scorer from the bench. His team is having a very successful season and he is thrilled to be a part of it.

I just wanted to share this with you as a thank you for all the time you spend with kids like my son – especially the 7th grade and older kids – most of which won't get the second chance that my son did to play on their school teams. I know this takes a lot of time you could be spending with your families. It is appreciated very much.

If you see my son's team mentioned in the sports section of the Austin American-Statesman you can know that you had a hand in the success of the team and in supporting the love of the game for a blond kid that just wanted to play basketball.

Sincerely,  
An appreciative T&C Basketball parent